

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 00615 210857Z

20

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PPTE-00 SCA-01 /002 W

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P 210742Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9885

INFO AMCONSUL KHORRAMSHAHR UNN

UNCLAS TEHRAN 0615

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CGEN, EWWT

SUBJ: UNITED SEAMEN'S SERVICE CLUBS REPRESENTATIVE-
TALMAGE E. SIMPKINS, JR.

REF: A. STATE 284036

1. KHORRAMSHAHR VICE CONSUL MICHAEL ARIETTI REPORTED HE VISITED SIMPKINS AT KHARG ISLAND JANUARY 19 AND CHATTED WITH HIM FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR. CONSOFF REPORTS SUBJECT FORESEES NO PROBLEMS IN HIS WORK AND APPEARS TO BE IN CHEERFUL SPIRITS. SIMPKINS PLANNING TO VISIT KHORRAMSHAHR FOR 2-3 DAYS BEGINNING JANUARY 25 AND HAS ACCEPTED INVITATION TO BE HOUSE GUEST OF ARIETTI THERE.

2. RE TEHRAN EMBASSY "REBUFF" CITED REFTTEL B, KHORRAMSHAHR CONSUL MICHAEL HORNBLow HAD ATTEMPTED CONTACT SIMPKINS UPON RECEIPT OF THAT CABLE. ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO TALK DIRECTLY TO SIMPKINS, HE MADE CONTACT THROUGH AN INTERMEDIARY WHOM HE QUERIED ABOUT TEHRAN INCIDENT WHICH WAS CLARIFIED DURING ARIETTI'S JANUARY 19 VISIT AS FOLLOWS: SIMPKINS HAD LETTER OF INTRODUCTION TO CLIFFORD GROSS, CHIEF OF EMBASSY'S CONSULAR SECTION. WHEN HE PHONED TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENT LOCAL PPT AND CITIZENSHIP EMPLOYEE SUGGESTED HE COME TO SECTION TO REGISTER BUT TOOK NO NOTICE OF HIS DESIRE TO SPEAK WITH GROSS. EMPLOYEE, WHO DOES NOT REMEMBER INCIDENT, HAS BEEN REMINDED THAT ANY AMERICAN CITIZEN HAS RIGHT TO SPEAK TO CONSOFF. THIS HAS, IN FACT, BEEN LONG-STANDING PRACTICE HERE, AND SLIP-UPS SUCH AS OCCURRED IN THIS INSTANCE ARE RARE.

MIKLOS

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NNN

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